

Mr. Chain Banker, that is the system we have out there, we have chain banking where an individual owns a whole series of little banks, we say to him now, look, yes, there was a compromise, and because we believe the bill does stand a good chance of passage, we are giving you the opportunity to put your group together too. Then if you have eight or nine or ten, you can put them all together, and if you want to add one or two more on, you still have the flexibility. You aren't giving the big banks, quite frankly, anything significant with this. The 10% is their limitation. That is why it was put in there, but when you tell the little guy you are limited to nine when you already have eight or nine, you haven't done him a thing. And so the purpose of this amendment quite frankly is to help the chain banker to put his group together and you know there is, what, twenty to thirty of these groups throughout the state. I would submit to you that if anybody should be voting for this amendment, it would be the traditional opponents of the bill quite frankly, the one that support the independent position and intend to oppose the bill ultimately. They should at least be voting for this amendment. Now quite frankly I don't care. The nine is fine by me and I think it would probably pass in that fashion but I think you truly are cutting off your nose to spite your face if you don't adopt this amendment.

PRESIDENT: Senator Clark.

SENATOR CLARK: Mr. President, members, I don't know how you could call this a compromise. However, if you call it a compromise, I don't want the person compromising to ever compromise anything for me. The big thing about this is that there is 450 banks in the state who were not in on any kind of a compromise or so-called word. I talked to a suburban bank the other day and he was in favor of this bill. He said, you bet, then I can sell my bank to one of the big banks. I said what in the world would a big bank want to buy your bank for, all he'd have to do is put a little office out there and have another bank of his own as branch banking. This bill creates branch banking in all the cities with five extended facilities. It doesn't do the little town any good at all. In Sidney, Nebraska, we have an extended facility in a bank but certainly within three blocks of the bank that we had to put it in at that time. There is no way in the world that we can ever staff that bank or there would be no reason to staff it when you only go three blocks for the main bank. It is inherently bad, it must be, to have bank holding companies. Otherwise why do you limit to nine or twelve? If it is so good, why don't you just open it up, let them get all the deposits they want. The main thing